

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 55

BY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE TO UNDERTAKE A STUDY OF THE COST OF IMPLEMENTING A RANDOM DRUG TESTING PROGRAM OF ADULTS RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT TO REPORT ITS FINDINGS TO THE LEGISLATURE.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, substance abuse in and of itself impairs personal responsibility and self-sufficiency and stands in the way of the very intent of public assistance programs to care for the health and welfare of certain otherwise qualified recipients and in so doing results in welfare costs that burden the state's taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, in balancing the interests of taxpayers, participants in public assistance programs who are not substance abusers and potential employers against the interests of those adults participating in public assistance programs who are substance abusers, screening, testing and treatment of adult substance abusers who receive public assistance and, if necessary, terminating adult substance abusers who continue to abuse controlled substances from the public assistance programs serves the greater interests of all concerned; and

WHEREAS, those adults who continue to test positive for a controlled substance after ninety days should not be allowed to continue participating in public assistance programs paid for by the taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, a significant number of employers use preemployment drug testing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare is requested to undertake a study of the cost of implementing a random drug testing program of adults receiving public assistance in Idaho and whether such a random drug testing program could become self-funded through savings to the state General Fund through terminating adults who continue to test positive for controlled substances after ninety days from public assistance programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health and Welfare is requested to report the findings of its study to the Legislature prior to the commencement of the First Regular Session of the Sixty-first Idaho Legislature.